

---

# **Program Memorandum**

## **INTERMEDIARIES\CARRIERS**

---

Department of Health and  
Human Services (DHHS)  
HEALTH CARE FINANCING  
ADMINISTRATION (HCFA)

---

Transmittal AB-01-43

Date: MARCH 14, 2001

---

### **CHANGE REQUEST 1589**

**SUBJECT: Revision to Carrier/Intermediary Provider Training for Skilled Nursing Facility Prospective Payment System (SNF PPS) and Consolidated Billing**

This Program Memorandum (PM) serves to notify carriers and intermediaries of an extension of the March 15, 2001, completion date for provider training on updates related to SNF PPS and consolidated billing update. The original training completion date of when contractors should complete provider training by was March 15, 2001, and is now April 30, 2001. For additional information on delays related to SNF consolidated billing, see PM AB-01-33.

Continue to take immediate steps to schedule your training and notify providers and other interested entities in your service area concerning times and places for training. This includes posting information on your web site, providing information to your customer service representatives who deal with providers, and contacting relevant provider associations. Keep account of the number of training sessions you hold, attendance, locations, and any other relevant information. Submit a schedule for your training to Cheryl Barton at [Cbarton@hcfa.gov](mailto:Cbarton@hcfa.gov). Monitor the progress of your providers and address unanticipated problems that may occur during the implementation of these program changes. Report any significant problems to your regional office contact. More detailed information will be provided to you on the reporting and collection of this information.

You should also take the following steps to ensure that providers and their billing vendors have adequate information about these Medicare program changes and the availability of training:

- Work cooperatively with your provider education and training advisory committee and the relevant State associations to coordinate training; and
- Notify providers that relevant training materials, articles and other relevant information will be posted on the HCFA web site at [www.hcfa.gov/medlearn](http://www.hcfa.gov/medlearn).

**The effective date of this PM is March 14, 2001 .**

**The implementation date for this PM is March 14, 2001.**

**This PM may be discarded after September 30, 2001.**

**Special funding has been provided by HCFA to cover the cost of provider training under this PM.**

**If you have any questions, contact Cheryl Barton at (410) 786-1114.**